(c) whether it is a fact that no serious actions are being taken against polluting vehicles and industries; and

(d) the number of cases which have been booked for violation of pollution standards during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (d) Ambient air quality analysis in the metros has revealed that the values of Sulphur dioxide (SO2) and Oxides of Nitrogen (NOx) are within the prescribed norms, whereas the levels of Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM) and Respirable Suspended particulate Matter (RSPM) exceed the norms at some places during certain period. Keeping in view the increase in vehicular traffic and the industrial activities in metros, the Government has taken several steps to check pollution levels, which include:

- Effluent and emission standards for different industries have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to check pollution.
- Highly polluting industries have been identified. Defaulting Industries have been directed to install necessary pollution control equipment in a time bound manner.
- Stricter emission standards for automobiles and fuel quality standards have been notified. Use of clean fuels such as CNG is promoted especially for plying of commercial vehicles in major cities.
- Source-specific noise standards for automobiles and generator sets have been notified to control noise pollution.

137 cases have been filed under Air and Water Act.

India's proposals at Johannesburg summit

†1745. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals submitted by India for securing concessions, assistance and consultation from developed countries for

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

under developed countries in the Earth Summit on practical development recently held in Johannesburg;

(b) whether there was any consensus on these proposals in the above Summite and if so, the details thereof and the way in which they were reflected in the declarations and proposals; and

(c) steps taken by Government in view of these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) The Summit started in the backdrop of the attempts made by developed countries to dilute the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities as agreed at United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de janeiro in 1992. India with the help of like minded countries succeeded in making the industrialized world reaffirm their commitment to these principles. The other equally important concerns which were raised by the developing countries were ensuring access for the people to clean water and sanitation facilities, increasing access to energy and health services, halting and preventing loss of Biodiversity and its sustainble utilization, changing the present unsustainable patterns of consumption and production and means of implementation to achieve these objectives. The efforts made by various blocks on imposing disguised trade barriers in the nature of eco-labeling, life-cycle analysis criteria, and inclusion of core labour standards of International Labour Organization were successfully countered by the developing countries.

(b) The Plan of Implementation and Political Declaration issued after the Summit has highlighted concerns of developing countries and reflect consensus among all countries arrived at the World Summit on Sustainable Development. The Plan of Implementation calls for immediate international action to tackle these issues.

(c) The Government regularly monitors its performance against the benchmark of annual and Five Year Plans which contain all elements of sustainable development. Ministry of Environment and Forests has set up a mechanism for follow up action on various decisions taken at the World Summit.